



**U.S. Army Corps  
Of Engineers**  
Norfolk District

Fort Norfolk, 803 Front Street  
Norfolk, Virginia 23510-1096

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### **Status of the Stream Attributes Assessment Methodology**

In the fall of 2002, the Corps of Engineers (COE) and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) began developing a Stream Attribute Analysis Methodology (SAAM) to quantify stream impacts and to assist in determining required compensatory stream mitigation amounts within the Piedmont Physiographic Region. During the summer of 2004, the methodology was field tested and presented at three peer review workshops. All substantive comments resulting from the workshops and the field testing have been incorporated and a revised draft SAAM has been prepared.

Our goal is to develop a SAAM that is simple to use, produces results that can be replicated among regulators and the consultant community, enhances the predictability of our regulatory program, and protects the aquatic environment. To ensure that we are as inclusive as possible, we plan to form teams consisting of a Corps project manager, a DEQ project manager, and a consultant to field test the revised draft on a variety of stream reaches. Once these field tests have been completed and the comments received from the participants, we will make all necessary changes and finalize the form.

If you would like to participate in this effort, please call Mike Schwinn at 757.201.7182 or email him a [michael.a.schwinn@usace.army.mil](mailto:michael.a.schwinn@usace.army.mil) by January 14, 2005.

J. Robert Hume, III  
Chief, Regulatory Branch